

JANUARY 10, 2002 11A PM ESTIME FAX THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE OF THE

**P.O. Box 954**  
**Effingham, Illinois 62401**

January 10, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

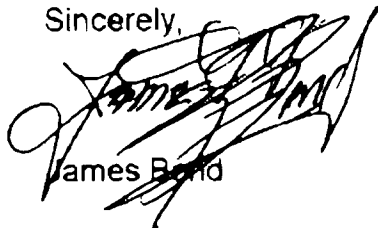
Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I wanted to let you know what I thought of the case against Microsoft. This case was totally unnecessary, and I am writing you today to express my opinion on the Microsoft settlement issue. I feel the settlement that was reached on November 2, 2001, is fair and reasonable. I am glad this three-year-long dispute is finally resolved.

Microsoft is a company that has done much for our economy and has made many contributions to the technology industry. This company should not be punished for being successful and creating quality products. Microsoft should be able to devote its time and resources to creating and marketing its innovative software, rather than litigation.

I am very pleased with your decision to settle with Microsoft. This decision is a step in the right direction towards an improved economy. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



James R. Bond